

After entry of the amendments contained herein, the claims under consideration in this application will read as follows.

Aut
F1
E6
1. (Twice amended) A peptide consisting of at least one T-cell epitope of Japanese cypress pollen allergen Cha o 1, and optionally a linker sensitive to enzyme cleavage between two epitopes, wherein each of said epitopes consists of an amino acid sequence selected from the group consisting of Peptide #1-2 (SEQ ID NO:4), Peptide #1-4 (SEQ ID NO:6), Peptide #1-5 (SEQ ID NO:7), Peptide #1-6 (SEQ ID NO:8), Peptide #1-7 (SEQ ID NO:9), Peptide #1-8 (SEQ ID NO:10), Peptide #1-10 (SEQ ID NO:12), Peptide #1-11 (SEQ ID NO:13), Peptide #1-12 (SEQ ID NO:14), Peptide #1-14 (SEQ ID NO:16), Peptide #1-15 (SEQ ID NO:17), Peptide #1-16 (SEQ ID NO:18), Peptide #1-19 (SEQ ID NO:21), Peptide #1-20 (SEQ ID NO:22), Peptide #1-21 (SEQ ID NO:23), Peptide #1-22 (SEQ ID NO: 24), Peptide #1-23 (SEQ ID NO:25), Peptide #1-24 (SEQ ID NO:26), Peptide #1-25 (SEQ ID NO:27), Peptide #1-27 (SEQ ID NO:29), Peptide #1-30 (SEQ ID NO:32), Peptide #1-31 (SEQ ID NO:33), Peptide #1-32 (SEQ ID NO:34), Peptide #1-33 (SEQ ID NO:35), and Peptide #1-34 (SEQ ID NO:36) shown in Fig. 4, or a part of said amino acid sequence.

E7
5. (Twice amended) A composition consisting essentially of the peptide of claim 1, as an active ingredient, and a pharmaceutically acceptable diluent or carrier.

Aut
F2
E8
29. The peptide of claim 1, wherein each of said epitopes consists of an amino acid sequence selected from the group consisting of: Peptide #1-2, Peptide #1-4, Peptide #1-5, Peptide #1-6, Peptide #1-7, Peptide #1-8, Peptide #1-10, Peptide #1-11, Peptide #1-12, Peptide #1-14, Peptide #1-15, Peptide #1-16, Peptide #1-19, Peptide #1-20, Peptide #1-21, Peptide #1-22, Peptide #1-23, Peptide #1-24, Peptide #1-25, Peptide #1-27, Peptide #1-30, Peptide #1-31, Peptide #1-32, Peptide #1-33 and Peptide #1-34 shown in Fig. 4.

30. The peptide of claim 1, wherein each of said epitopes consists of an amino acid sequence selected from the group consisting of Peptide #1-2, Peptide #1-7, Peptide #1-8, Peptide #1-20, Peptide #1-22, Peptide #1-24, Peptide #1-32, Peptide #1-33, and Peptide #1-34 shown in Fig. 4.

31. The peptide of claim 1, wherein each of said epitopes consists of an amino acid sequence selected from the group consisting of Peptide #1-7, Peptide #1-22, Peptide #1-32, and Peptide #1-33 shown in Fig. 4.

32. The composition of claim 5, wherein said pollinosis is Japanese cypress pollinosis and/or cedar pollinosis.

33. A composition consisting essentially of the peptide of claim 29 as an active ingredient, and a pharmaceutically acceptable diluent or carrier.

34. A composition consisting essentially of the peptide of claim 30 as an active ingredient, and a pharmaceutically acceptable diluent or carrier.

35. A composition consisting essentially of the peptide of claim 31 as an active ingredient, and a pharmaceutically acceptable diluent or carrier.

36. An analog peptide consisting of a sequence indential to that of a wild-type peptide of claim 1, except for substitutions in one or more amino acid residues that mediate an interaction with a T cell receptor or that mediate an interaction with a major histocompatibility complex (MHC) class II molecule, wherein the analog peptide simulates a T cell that is responsive to the wild-type peptide.

37. The analog peptide of claim 36, wherein the analog peptide stimulates the T cell to produce a greater amount of interferon- γ than stimulated by the wild-type peptide.

38. The peptide of claim 1, wherein said linker is Arg-Arg or Lys-Lys.

Amended
39. A peptide consisting of at least two T-cell epitopes of Japanese cypress pollen allergen Cha o 1 and a linker sensitive to enzyme cleavage between two T-cell epitopes, wherein at least one of said epitopes consists of an amino acid sequence selected from the group consisting of Peptide #1-2 (SEQ ID NO:4), Peptide #1-4 (SEQ ID NO:6), Peptide #1-5 (SEQ ID NO:7), Peptide #1-6 (SEQ ID NO:8), Peptide #1-7 (SEQ ID NO:9), Peptide #1-8 (SEQ ID NO:10), Peptide #1-10 (SEQ ID NO:12), Peptide #1-11 (SEQ ID NO:13), Peptide #1-12 (SEQ ID NO:14), Peptide #1-14 (SEQ ID NO:16), Peptide #1-15 (SEQ ID NO:17), Peptide #1-16 (SEQ ID NO:18), Peptide #1-19 (SEQ ID NO:21), Peptide #1-20 (SEQ ID NO:22), Peptide #1-21 (SEQ ID NO:23), Peptide #1-22 (SEQ ID NO: 24), Peptide #1-23 (SEQ ID NO:25), Peptide #1-24 (SEQ ID NO:26), Peptide #1-25 (SEQ ID NO:27), Peptide #1-26 (SEQ ID NO:28), Peptide #1-27 (SEQ ID NO:29), Peptide #1-30 (SEQ ID NO:32), Peptide #1-31 (SEQ ID NO:33), Peptide #1-32 (SEQ ID NO:34), Peptide #1-33 (SEQ ID NO:35), and Peptide #1-34 (SEQ ID NO:36) shown in Fig. 4, or a part of said amino acid sequence.